

## Message Text

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ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SYE-00 SSO-00 /016 W

-----192158Z 092558 /12

O 192130Z MAY 77 ZFF-4

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO MSG BN HQS WASHDC IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5391

INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS LA PAZ 3847

ASUNCION FOR RSO; PANAMA FOR CO"D"; BOGOTA FOR RMO MAJ RAY

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: ASEC, AFSP

SUBJ: NCOIC MSG DET

REF: PANAMA 3449

1. PSO HAS DISCUSSED WILLINGNESS S/SGT KLOEHN VOLUNTARILY EXTEND FOR 30 TO 60 DAYS. S/SGT KLOHN PREFERS NOT TO EXTEND AND WILL BE DEPARTING LA PAZ 6/4 AS SCHEDULED. M/SGT BOLAND NOW SCHEDULED TO DEPART LA PAZ 5/25 IN ACCORDANCE WITH RECOMMENDATION REGIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER THAT MRS. BOLAND NOT REMAIN LONGER THAN NECESSARY IN LA PAZ SINCE THIS DETRIMENTAL TO HER HEALTH. DEPARTURE M/SGT BOLAND WILL LEAVE S/SGT KLOEHN AS ANCOIC THROUGH 6/4. EMBASSY WILLING ACCEPT ADDITIONAL PERIOD UP TO 15 DAYS WITH SGT VEAL AS ANCOIC. OUR PREFERENCE NOT HAVE VEAL ACT LONGER THAN 15 DAYS SHOULD IN NO WAY BE CONSIDERED REFLECTION ON HIS CAPABILITIES; HOWEVER WE FEEL THIS WOULD BE MAXIMUM PERIOD GIVEN SGT VEAL'S LACK OF COMMAND EXPERIENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE TRAINING.

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2. EMBASSY FAILS TO UNDERSTAND REASON APPROPRIATE NCOIC CANNOT BE PROVIDED ON TIMELY BASIS BY MSG BN. FIRST NOTIFICATION ASSIGNMENT GY/SGT JOY WAS MADE ON 3/3 (PANAMA 1491). EMBASSY THEN WAS NOTIFIED 5/9 GY/SGT JOY ITINERARY NOT AVAILABLE SINCE HE ON SECURITY HOLD (091545Z MAY 77 FROM MSG BN). REFTEL NOTIFIED EMBASSY 5/15 THAT ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS REGARDING GY/SGT JOY HAVE NOT YET BEEN RESOLVED AND THAT POSSIBILITY

EXISTS THEY MAY CONTINUE; THUS EMBASSY HAS BEEN IN DARK FOR SOME 2 1/2 MONTHS TO DETRIMENT NOT ONLY OF IMPORTANT POST SECURITY POSITION BUT HEALTH OF M/SGT BOLAND'S WIFE. THIS IS AN INTOLERABLE SITUATION AND WE LOOK TO MSG BN FOR DIRECT ATTENTION TO ITS RAPID SOLUTION.

3. EMBASSY BELIEVES BOTH A/SY AND MSG BN HEADQUARTERS ARE AWARE OF THE DIFFICULT NATURE OF SERVICE AT THIS MOST HIGH ALTITUDE POST IN THE FOREIGN SERVICE AND NOT ONLY THAT, BUT OF THE DIFFICULTIES EXPERIENCED WITH MARINE DETACHMENT SOME 2 1/2 YEARS PAST. SINCE ARRIVAL OF GYSGT STRANSKY IN EARLY 1975 AND WITH WORK CONTINUED BY M/SGT BOLAND, THIS DETACHMENT HAS PROGRESSED TO ONE OF THE FINEST IN THE HEMISPHERE AS EVIDENCED BY MOVE FROM "TAIL END CHARLIE" TO #2 POSITION AND WINNING OF "MOST IMPROVED UNIT" TROPHY LAST YEAR. WE HOPE THAT THE BN WILL CONSIDER THIS PROBLEM IN ITS TRUE LIGHT AND ASSURE THE EARLY ARRIVAL OF A COMPETENT TROOP LEADER.

4. EMBASSY PSO IN TWO TELECONS WITH CO. "D" COMMANDER MAJ RAY THIS MORNING WHO NOW IN BOGOTA ON INSPECTION TRIP DISCUSSED PROBLEM AND POSSIBLE SOLUTION. HE SUGGESTED THAT IT MAY BE POSSIBLE TO OBTAIN QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL FOR TDY LA PAZ UNTIL ARRIVAL OF NEW NCOIC. HIS SUGGESTIONS WERE (IN THIS ORDER): (A) SGT BARRERA - RIO DE JANEIRO; (B) S/SGT (SEL) BAUER - NASSAU; (C) SGT JACKSON - BOGOTA. WE REALIZE EXTENSIVE COST OF SUCH TDY AND HOPE DEPARTMENT CAN BE FORTHCOMING IN OUR NEED. REQUEST IMMEDIATE ACTION AND RESPONSE.

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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